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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: SPECIAL SUMMARY NUMBER 3: TELEGRAPHIC

1. KARAME CABINET: A LEBANESE GOVERNMENT OF "NATIONAL RECONCILATION?"

SPECULATION ON THE COMPOSITION OF THE KARAME CABINET, TO BE NAMED AT LATEST THE MORNING OF MAY 29, IS INTENSE, WITH PRACTICALLY EVERY NOTABLE FIGURE IN LEBANON BEING MENTIONED. WHATEVER ITS ACTUAL COMPOSITION, THE NEW CABINET WILL PROBABLY BE HERALDED AS A COALITION GOVERNMENT OF "NATIONAL RECONCILIATION."

HEAVY FIRING, INCLUDING ROCKETS AND MORTARS, RESUMED IN BEIRUT THE NIGHT OF MAY 27-28 WITH RANDOM SNIPING CONTINUING INTO THE MORNING. HOWEVER, KARAME'S SELECTION IS EXPECTED TO LEAD TO A NOTICEABLE COOLING OF TENSIONS AS THE NEW PRIME MINISTER SETS A TONE OF MAGNANIMITY AND BROTHERHOOD.

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2. US-LIBYAN RELATIONS

WHEN TOLD BY CHARGE' STEIN THAT THE US IS UNLIKELY TO APPROVE EXPORT OF A NUCLEAR REACTOR TO LIBYA, GOL

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OFFICIALS SAID THIS TYPE OF US INTRANSIGENCY DISAPPOINTS THOSE WHO ARE ACTIVELY SEEKING BETTER RELATIONS. OTHER GOL OVERTURES CITED WERE:

--NAMING AN AMBASSADOR TO THE US AND PROPOSING TO ENLARGE DIPLOMATIC STAFFS;

--RATIFYING THE NPT.

THE CHARGE' REPLIED THAT LIBYA COULD NOT CONTINUE TO ABUSE THE US PUBLICLY AND OPPOSE ITS POLICIES ACROSS THE BOARD IN THE MIDDLE EAST, WHILE TALKING PRIVATELY ABOUT BETTERING RELATIONS.

EMBASSY COMMENT

LIBYAN - US RELATIONS MAY BE AT A TURNING POINT AND A FEW POSITIVE GESTURES BY THE US COULD CREATE A CLIMATE FOR GENUINE CHANGE.

3. CYPRUS: CLERIDES FLOATS "WALDHEIM PROPOSALS"

EMBASSY NICOSIA REPORTS THAT CLERIDES RECENTLY CLAIMED PUBLICLY THAT WALDHEIM HAD MADE FOUR SPECIFIC PROPOSALS FOR TURKISH MILITARY WITHDRAWALS AND REFUGEE RETURN DURING THE FIRST SESSION OF THE VIENNA CONFERENCE.

--CLERIDES CLAIMED THE TURKISH SIDE AGREED TO EXAMINE THE PROPOSALS AND GIVE A FINAL REPLY AT VIENNA II.

--DENKTASH IMMEDIATELY DISCLAIMED KNOWLEDGE OF ANY "WALDHEIM PROPOSAL" AND AGAIN STATED THAT VIENNA II MIGHT BE POSTPONED BECAUSE TURKISH EXPERTS WERE ENGAGED IN THE STRASBOURG HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MEETING.

4. SPANISH MILITARY INFLUENCES SAHARAN POLICY

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IN A DISCUSSION WITH AMBASSADOR NEUMANN, THE SPANISH AMBASSADOR TO MOROCCO ATTRIBUTED THE GOS POLICY SHIFT TOWARD ACCELERATED DECOLONIZATION OF THE SAHARA MAINLY TO PRESSURES FROM THE SPANISH MILITARY, WHO WISH TO AVOID A COLONIAL WAR WHILE FACING PROBLEMS WITH THE BASQUES AND UNCERTAINTIES IN PORTUGAL. THE AMBASSADOR:

--ESTIMATED THAT THE WITHDRAWAL WILL TAKE PLACE WITHIN A MATTER OF MONTHS;

--QUESTIONED SPANISH INSISTENCE ON INVOLVING ALGERIA IN TALKS ABOUT THE SAHARA'S FUTURE AND SUGGESTED THAT THE PRESIDENT, DURING HIS MADRID VISIT, COULD DEMONSTRATE A

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POSITIVE SHOW OF INTEREST BY ASKING WHY THE GOS WAS SO INTERESTED IN THE ALGERIAN ASPECT.

5. BELGIUM NEARS DECISION ON F-16

THE BELGIAN CHEF DE CABINET SAID MAY 28 THAT PRIME MINISTER TINDEMANS HAS OPTED FOR THE F-16 AND IS NOW GOING THROUGH A "DELICATE" PROCESS OF MAKING THE DECISION AS PALATABLE AS POSSIBLE FOR THE PRO-MIRAGE FRANCOPHONE ELEMENTS. THE FORMAL DECISION IS POSSIBLE AT THE MAY 30 CABINET MEETING. TINDEMANS:

--IS EMPHASIZING THAT THE F-16 DECISION DOES NOT DEGRADE BELGIUM'S COMMITMENT TO PRESERVE A EUROPEAN AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY AND TO PROMOTE A VIABLE EUROPEAN ARMAMENTS INDUSTRY;

--WILL EXPLAIN HIS POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY ON THE ISSUE TO THE PRESIDENT WHEN THEY MEET.

6. EC COUNCIL DISCUSSES PORTUGAL

THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS' MAY 26 COUNCIL MEETING GAVE IRISH FOREIGN MINISTER FITZGERALD AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT EXPLORATORY TALKS IN LISBON JUNE 1-3, BUT DID NOT AUTHORIZE HIM TO NEGOTIATE OR TO OFFER ANY NEW AID. THE MINISTERS:

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--WERE IN GENERAL PESSIMISTIC ABOUT THE TREND OF EVENTS IN PORTUGAL, BUT INTEND TO GO AHEAD WITH PLANS TO PROVIDE AID AND ENCOURAGE TRADE;

--BELIEVED THAT PORTUGUESE ATTENTION MUST BE DRAWN TO THE CONNECTION BETWEEN POLITICAL STABILITY AND DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS ON THE ONE HAND AND AID AND TRADE ON THE OTHER.

7. FORCE REDUCTIONS IN THAILAND

IN A DISCUSSION WITH AMBASSADOR WHITEHOUSE, THE THAI AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON STRESSED THAT THE RTG WILL ABIDE BY ITS PUBLIC POSITION THAT ALL US FORCES MUST LEAVE BY MARCH 1976 AND SUGGESTED THAT THE US PRESENT A PLAN FOR WITHDRAWAL AND BASE CLOSURES.

EMBASSY COMMENT

THE AMBASSADOR, WHO WILL BECOME SECRETARY OF THE THAI COMMITTEE REVIEWING AGREEMENTS WITH THE US, SEEMED TO BELIEVE THAT THE US HAS NOT TAKEN THE THAI POSITION SERIOUSLY AND

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IS CONSPIRING WITH THE MILITARY TO CIRCUMVENT THE
GOVERNMENT.

8. INDONESIAN ATTITUDES TOWARD THE NEW ECONOMIC ORDER

IN CONVERSATIONS WITH KEY INDONESIANS WHO ARE ASSOCIATED

WITH THE "THIRD WORLD" PUSH FOR A NEW ECONOMIC ORDER,
EMBASSY OFFICERS IN JAKARTA WERE TOLD THE US IS IN TROUBLE,
NOT SO MUCH OVER SUBSTANCE OF THE ISSUES, BUT BECAUSE:

--IT "TALKS DOWN" TO THE THIRD WORLD AND ATTEMPTS TO
PRESERVE THE STATUS QUO INSTEAD OF ACKNOWLEDGING THE
VALIDITY OF THE DEMAND FOR CHANGE AND SEEKING TO GUIDE
IT INTO CONSTRUCTIVE LINES.

--THE GROUP OF 77 AND OPEC THRUST IS BASICALLY POLITICAL
IN THAT OPEC SUPPORTS THE GROUP IN EXCHANGE FOR ITS
AGREEMENT NOT TO ATTACK OIL PRICES.
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--THE CONSTANT US REFERENCE TO POORER NATIONS BEING HURT
BY OPEC IS COUNTER PRODUCTIVE.

--THE ASSERTION IN THE SECRETARY'S KANSAS CITY SPEECH
THAT THE PRESENT ECONOMIC ORDER "HAS SERVED THE WORLD WELL"
IS NOT ACCEPTED BY THE DEVELOPING WORLD.

9. ROK FISHING BOAT RETURNED BY PRC

ACCORDING TO THE ROK JCS, THE ROK FISHING BOAT ALLEGEDLY
CAPTURED BY TEN PRC FISHING BOATS ON MAY 25 HAS BEEN
RELEASED AND IS BEING TOWED TO PORT.

10. BOGOTA: PRESIDENT LOPEZ REMOVES ARMY COMMANDER

IN A SURPRISE AND DRAMATIC MOVE MAY 28, PRESIDENT LOPEZ
IN EFFECT FIRED GENERAL VALENCIA TOVAR AS COMMANDER OF
THE COLOMBIAN ARMY. THE REMOVAL FOLLOWED A MAY 27 UPI
STORY STATING THAT LOPEZ HAD OVERCOME AN ATTEMPTED
COUP IN EARLY MAY, A STORY DENIED BY TOVAR AND
DEFENSE MINISTER VARON VALENCIA. ALTHOUGH THERE IS NO
READY EXPLANATION FOR THE TIMING AND MANNER OF TOVAR'S
REMOVAL:

--ITS PRECIPITATENESS SUGGESTS THAT LOPEZ MAY HAVE BEEN
RESPONDING TO AN IMMEDIATE THREAT, EITHER REAL OR FANCIED.

--LOPEZ MAY HAVE BEEN INFLUENCED BY THE COMPLAINTS OF
VARON, WHO HAS BEEN FEUDING WITH TOVAR FACTIONS OF
THE ARMY.

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LOPEZ IS LIKELY TO FEEL CONSIDERABLE RESENTMENT AGAINST VARON FOR NOT BEING ABLE TO MANAGE INTERNAL PROBLEMS IN THE MILITARY WITH DISCRETION AND WITHOUT INVOLVING THE PRESIDENT HIMSELF. SOME OBSERVERS BELIEVE THAT VARON IS NOW A PRIME CANDIDATE FOR REMOVAL DURING THE NEXT CABINET SHAKEUP.

11. BRAZIL: SPINOLA EFFORTS TO ACQUIRE US VISA

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FORMER PRESIDENT SPINOLA OF PORTUGAL APPLIED MAY 28 FOR A TOURIST VISA TO TRAVEL ON MAY 30 TO NEW ORLEANS FOR A

TWO WEEK VISIT. ACCORDING TO A BUSINESS ASSOCIATE, SPINOLA WISHES TO "SEE FRIENDS" AND WILL PROBABLY STAY ONLY 3-4 DAYS BEFORE RETURNING TO BRAZIL AND THEN LEAVING FOR EUROPE. INGERSOLL

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